



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

MAY 15 2012

Richard Nelson, Field Supervisor
Rock Island Illinois Field Office
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
1511 47th Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265

Dear Mr. Nelson:

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S. C. 1531 et seq.), the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the biological information and analysis related to a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit for the proposed Washington Mills Hennepin, Inc. expansion located in Hennepin, Illinois, to determine what impact there may be to any threatened or endangered species in the area around the facility. Washington Mills is proposing to install a sixth furnace group to increase production capacity and provide increased operating flexibility. RK & Associates, Inc. has prepared a revised analysis for the project on behalf of the facility, dated March 1, 2012 (See enclosure). EPA has reviewed the analysis and has determined that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, any federally listed species. The purpose of this letter is to seek concurrence from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service on our determination. If you have any questions with respect to this letter, please contact Rachel Rineheart, of my staff, at (312) 886-7017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Genevieve Damico".

Genevieve Damico
Chief
Air Permits Section

Enclosure

cc: Laurel Kroak, IEPA